

NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER PHIL ANGELIDES

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STATE POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING PANEL, AT URGING OF TREASURER ANGELIDES, HALTS DAIRY PROJECTS AND AGREES TO ADOPT NEW RULES TO IMPROVE AIR AND WATER QUALITY

Senator Florez, Angelides, and Environmentalists Vow to Work Together on Legislation to Protect State's Air and Water

SACRAMENTO, CA – At the urging of State Treasurer Phil Angelides, the California Pollution Control Financing Authority (CPCFA) today voted to halt for 90 days the financing of dairy pollution control projects, and to adopt new rules to ensure that no future dairy projects will be financed unless they result in improved air and water quality.

At the same time, Senator Dean Florez (D-Shafter), and environmentalists praised the Authority's action and, later, joined with Angelides to vow to work together on legislation to ensure that CPCFA's agricultural pollution control projects protect the State's air and water.

State Controller Steve Westly joined Angelides, the Board chairman, in approving the 90-day moratorium. The third member of the board, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Finance Department representative, Bob Campbell, abstained.

Specifically, the CPCFA Board approved the following actions: it formally placed a 90-day moratorium on approving the financing of any dairy pollution control facilities; it instructed CPCFA staff to develop new rules providing that the Authority will not finance any dairy pollution control facility unless the project results in improved air and water quality; and, it instructed staff to develop, for the Board's consideration, possible incentives for dairies that undertake innovative, advanced pollution control measures that significantly improve air and water quality.

"The message of today's action is simple and clear: we are dedicated to cleaning up our air and cleaning up our water," Angelides said at a news conference after the CPCFA board meeting. "I hope that the California Pollution Control Financing Authority now moves forward to adopt the toughest financing standards in the country to protect our environment. And I look forward to working with Senator Florez on the legislation to improve our State's air and water quality."

Florez said, "We in the Valley have been fighting for cleaner air and water for years now, and today's decisions mark another important step in that direction. Most importantly, I believe pollution control efforts will have a very positive impact on our environment and community in the long run."

Joining the Treasurer and Florez at today's news conference were environmentalists Vicki Lee, Conservation Chair, Mother Lode Chapter of the Sierra Club, and Mark Murray, Executive Director of Californians Against Waste.

"The CPCFA did the right thing today and they should be applauded for the effort," Lee said. "Now, we look forward to working with Treasurer Angelides and Senator Florez on legislation to finish the job."

The Treasurer first called for today's actions in an October 15 letter to his fellow board members. A copy of the Treasurer's letter is available on the Treasurer's Office web site, www.treasurer.ca.gov.

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